

LAND ACQUISITION

On page 493, line 17, strike "\$148,263,000", and insert "\$145,763,000."

SA 66. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 2, making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 80, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. 7. EXEMPTION OF MILK HANDLERS FROM MINIMUM PRICE REQUIREMENTS.

Section 8c(5) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c(5)), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(M) EXEMPTION OF MILK HANDLERS FROM MINIMUM PRICE REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, no handler with distribution of Class I milk products in the Arizona-Las Vegas marketing area (Order No. 131) shall be exempt during any month from any minimum milk price requirement established by the Secretary under this subsection if the total distribution of Class I products within the Arizona-Las Vegas marketing area of any handler's own farm production exceeds the lesser of—

"(i) 3 percent of the total quantity of Class I products distributed in the Arizona-Las Vegas marketing area (Order No. 131); or
 "(ii) 5,000,000 pounds."

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Friday, January 17, 2003 at 9 a.m. to consider the nomination of the Honorable Tom Ridge to be Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Friday, January 17, 2003 at approximately 12:30 p.m. for a business meeting to consider the nomination of the Honorable Tom Ridge to be Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2003

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 10 a.m., Tuesday, January 21; I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and that there be a period of morning

business not to extend beyond the hour of 10:30 a.m., with the time equally divided in the usual form; further, I ask that at 10:30 a.m., the Senate then resume consideration of H.J. Res. 2, the appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 121

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at the hour of 5:05 p.m. on Tuesday, the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 121, the Amber alert bill, and the Senate proceed to the consideration of the bill, and that Senators HUTCHISON and LEAHY be recognized for 5 minutes each to debate the measure; that following the use or yielding back of all time, the bill be read the third time and the Senate proceed to a vote on passage, without any intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. For the information of all Senators, the Senate will return for business on Tuesday. On Tuesday, we will resume consideration of the appropriations measure. I understand there are several Members on the other side of the aisle who have agreed to offer their amendments during Tuesday's session. Under the previous order, the Senate will vote on passage of the Amber alert bill at 5:15 on Tuesday. Therefore, Senators can expect the first vote of next week to occur at 5:15. Additional votes will occur during Tuesday's session.

In addition to considering further amendments to the appropriations measure, it is my hope that on Tuesday the Senate will consider the nomination of Tom Ridge to be Secretary of Homeland Security. I believe some Members have indicated their desire to speak in regard to that nomination, and a rollcall vote is anticipated. I hope that on Tuesday we will be able to reach an agreement to allow for that debate and a rollcall vote Tuesday evening.

Finally, I wish to announce to Members that they should expect busy sessions and late nights next week. We have no choice but to press on and complete this matter. I hope Members will cooperate and offer their amendments in a timely manner so we can complete these appropriations next week. I thank Members for their cooperation in advance.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order following the re-

marks of Senator HARKIN for up to 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Iowa is recognized.

DISASTER AID

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I thank the leader for his kindness in letting me speak for up to 15 minutes before the Senate goes out for the long weekend before we come back in on Tuesday. I take this time to draw attention to the provision in the pending bill regarding disaster aid to our farmers.

We have been fighting here for almost 3 years to get disaster relief for farmers all over America. We had it basically in our budget a couple years ago. We had it in the farm bill, but it was taken out. We had assurances from the administration that it would come later. It never did. We have farmers who were promised disaster aid over 2 years ago, and they still have not received it.

A number of us on both sides of the aisle have been trying for some time now to fill in that hole and get aid to the farmers who have really suffered a lot from disasters. In the Presiding Officer's home State, livestock producers and grain farmers have had disasters in the last couple of years for which they have not been adequately compensated. That is true in the Midwest—some in my State, and much of it further west, and a lot along the eastern seaboard. But we have had some serious crop disasters.

Now the bill before us has some money in there for, as they say, disaster assistance. But upon reading the fine print, it turns out that it is not really disaster assistance, it is just putting money in a bushel basket and throwing it out to farmers. It just doesn't make any sense. In the Des Moines Register this morning, Philip Brasher had an article about it. Here is the headline: Bountiful Crop Could Still Draw Disaster Aid. My quote is this:

"This is just nonsense," said Iowa Senator Tom Harkin.

Basically, the article shows that a grain farmer in Iowa—we had really great crops in Iowa—the soybean and corn crops this year. In one part of Iowa, we had a drought. In many parts of the State, we had bumper crops and we had significantly higher prices. Under the provision in the bill before us, those farmers will get disaster assistance. What sense does that make?

Please, someone explain to me why we are taking an across-the-board cut—we are cutting education, veterans, medical research, and all this other stuff; and we are going to take some of this money and give it to farmers who have had no losses. In fact, some farmers made a lot of money because they had good crops. God bless them. I wish every farmer could have a good crop and have high prices to go with it. But this doesn't make sense in